



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 12, 2020
Meeting held electronically**

PRESENT: Chair Janice Eng, Vice-Chair Jayne Hubbard, Commissioners Cambria Bowman, James Campbell, Emily Reilly (lost connection at approximately 6:00 p.m.), and Andrew Song

ABSENT: Commissioner Ashley Blaine

STAFF: Greg Bestgen, Director; Justin Boyd, Housing Supervisor; Kristy Hahn-McDonald, Manager; Kevin McKee, Manager; Sheila Williams, HS Specialist

Call to Order

Chair Eng called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Chair Eng welcomed Cambria Bowman to the Commission.

Public Comment

No public comments were submitted.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2020

COMMISSIONER REILLY MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 8, 2020 HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR HUBBARD SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR ENG, VICE-CHAIR HUBBARD, COMMISSIONERS CAMPBELL AND REILLY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONERS BOWMAN AND SONG ABSTAINED. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. CDBG Non-Public Service Set-Aside Requests for FY 2021/22

Justin Boyd, Housing Supervisor, proposed goals and set-aside funding allocations for CDBG Non-Public Services for FY 2021/22. He described the Green Housing Rehabilitation Program, the Roof Repair Program, and the Housing Rehabilitation Program, including eligibility requirements and funding restrictions.

Mr. Boyd requested non-public service set-aside funding to replace Apache Park Playground, which was originally installed in 2000 and, per the replacement schedule, should have been replaced in 2012. He presented renderings of the new playground. The estimated total cost for the proposed scope of work is \$81,376.

Commissioners were given the opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Boyd said that he expects that the water feature construction will be completed ahead of schedule, by March 2021. He said that the 12-year replacement policy is standard, but warranties that come with the new equipment are significantly better than in the past.

COMMISSIONER SONG MOVED TO APPROVE PROPOSED GOALS AND SET-ASIDE FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FOR CDBG NON-PUBLIC SERVICES FOR FY 2021/22 INCLUDING APACHE PARK PLAYGROUND. COMMISSIONER BOWMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR ENG, VICE-CHAIR HUBBARD, COMMISSIONERS BOWMAN, CAMPBELL, AND SONG VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER REILLY NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Career Services Update

Kevin McKee, Vista del Camino Manager, reviewed the history of Scottsdale's relationship with Maricopa County, dating back to 1998. The relationship was formalized through an IGA in 2008 and the City began a pilot program with Arizona@Work over the past year.

Sheila Williams, Human Services Specialist, provided an overview in the City of Scottsdale Career Services program. Her presentation included a review of current trends and service updates. Because of the pandemic, amenities and services for participants are being moved to a virtual platform. Career coaching, provided by volunteer local professionals, offers assistance with resume development, interview preparation, career assessments, job search strategies, and consultation with setting up a LinkedIn account. Hiring events and teen employment services are moving to a virtual platform expected to launch in spring of 2021. The career center has transitioned from walk-in servicing to appointment only with one-hour time slots available.

Arizona @Work, a branch of Maricopa County services, operates out of the Vista del Camino human services office providing Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) training grant eligibility screening, office proficiency assessments and certification, career readiness training, case management, and referral services. Efforts are ongoing to offer Arizona@Work services virtually.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Williams explained that if people choose to walk in to use the career center without an appointment, they are typically accommodated with a reasonable wait time. During the COVID-19 pandemic the department has seen more career professionals and small business owners seeking employment and counseling. One of the career coaches has developed an approach to help individuals rebrand themselves.

3. Youth and Family Services and Court Programs

Kristy Hahn-McDonald, Human Services Manager, provided information on current Youth and Family Services programming. Youth and Family Services has two offices located at the City Court, where they provide drug and alcohol, domestic violence, and anger management screenings and supportive services for a fee. She noted that with COVID-19 pandemic there have been fewer cases, which has allowed staff time to create a 16-hour online program that is expected to launch in two weeks.

The Juvenile Diversion Program and Restorative Justice Program offer youth an opportunity to go through counseling and education classes as an alternative to having violations on their permanent record.

Community Intervention Court pilot program began January 13, 2020. The purpose of the program is to connect participants with vital social services and mental health treatment providers.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Hahn-McDonald explained that there is a one-time \$40 fee for the Restorative Justice program.

4. Director Report

Greg Bestgen, Director, reported that to date approximately \$1,393,700 has been expended to assist 354 individuals through the rent, mortgage, and utility assistance program.

Thanks to CARES funds, the senior centers will be serving approximately 200 individuals Thanksgiving meals through curbside pickup. Director Bestgen noted that all 340 seniors have been adopted for the Holiday Adopt-a-Senior program.

Virtual discussion groups are being offered to seniors who are interested in a forum for getting back in touch. Success stories are being collected at senior centers and staff is working with the Communications and Public Affairs Officer on ways to publicize those stories through the media.

Director Bestgen shared success stories from the Phoenix Rescue Mission Navigators, who personally engaged with 50 homeless individuals in Scottsdale over the last month. One social worker was able to assist a homeless veteran at Mustang Library, providing him with transportation to the Community Resource and Referral Center for veteran assistance. The individual was placed in the veteran residential program where he is now receiving specialized housing assistance.

The Community Bridges Hotel Shelter Program has to date assisted 29 individuals, with ten now confirmed for rapid rehousing. An additional eight individuals are confirmed for permanent supportive housing.

ELAINE, an organization that focuses on providing underserved individuals with transportation to appointments and entitlement programs that are not allowed as part of other transportation programs, launched this week.

5. Adjournment

COMMISSIONER SONG MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR HUBBARD SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR ENG, VICE-CHAIR HUBBARD, COMMISSIONERS BOWMAN, CAMPBELL, AND SONG VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER REILLY NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Recorded and Transcribed by eScribers, LLC.